



Welcome to the Ercall Wood Safeguarding Bulletin

Issue 6

SUMMER is HERE!

In this last issue of Safeguarding before your child embarks on a 7 week school holiday, I am aiming to provide some support networks and information you may require when the schools are closed. We are committed to working with all our parents and students, to actively promote the safeguarding and welfare of all our students.

We hope you have found the safeguarding newsletters helpful and informative.
We wish you a safe, fun and enjoyable summer.

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Safeguarding Academy Website

Click on the link above to access our Academy's safeguarding site and a direct email link should you have any safeguarding concerns over the holiday period, and at any other time. I have also added some very useful online safety tips. Examples below;



Family Connect – for all social service, safeguarding issues if you need to speak to a Team member from Telford and Wrekin. Calls to this service can also remain anonymous for your own safety – security. [01952 385385](tel:01952385385)

What is grooming?

Grooming is when someone builds a relationship, trust and emotional connection with a child or young person so they can manipulate, exploit and abuse them.

Children and young people who are groomed can be [sexually abused](#), [exploited](#) or [trafficked](#).

Anybody can be a groomer, no matter their age, gender or race. Grooming can take place over a short or long period of time – from weeks to years. Groomers may also build a relationship with the young person's family or friends to make them seem trustworthy or authoritative.

[Grooming risk: Stay Safe, Stay Busy over the summer](#)

Young people being are at risk of grooming. It is said that some identified individuals, engaged in criminal activities will be especially targeting young people who have 'nothing to do' over the summer holidays. The summer break is a critical time for young people who are left idle to engage in anti-social behaviour.

We want all our parents and carers to be aware of the risks and alert to their children's behaviours and activities. During the summer, there are plenty of activities for children and young people.

It is important and to be alert to their friendship groups and activities on their mobile phones.

Grooming

Children and young people can be groomed online or in the real world, by a stranger or by someone they know. If you're worried about a child, we have advice to help.

Stay safe online & reduce screen time

There is no doubt that parenting in this age requires new skills. We ask all parents to review their child's use of online applications regularly. Seek advice if you have concerns about your child's online activities or excessive screen time. Ask yourself some questions: · Is my child sleeping at night or using their phone? How do I know if my child is affected by too much gaming or phone use? See here for helpful advice: <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/tv-habits.html>.

Student Voice

We are in the process of completing student voice around safeguarding – in Autumn term 2021 I will be able to provide some more information of what your child feels about safeguarding at Ercall Wood Academy.

External support links

Free online counselling - [kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com)

Beat: The UK's Eating Disorder Charity - Support with eating disorders:
www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk/

Childline: www.childline.org.uk

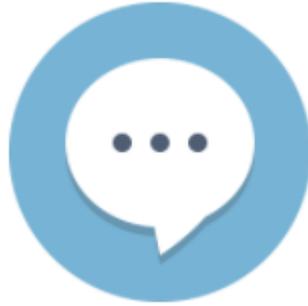
NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk

Give Us a Shout: Shout is the UK's first free 24/7 text service for anyone in crisis Shout is the UK's first 24 hour 7 day a week Text service for anyone in a crisis anytime, anywhere.

www.giveusashout.org Text Shout to 85258

Young Minds: The UK's leading charity fighting for children and young people's Young Minds mental health - <https://youngminds.org.uk/>

tootoot



Confidential reporting app

Please remember we still have our reporting app for any student which allows students to report anything anonymously from bullying to safeguarding concerns.

“At tootoot we believe that wellbeing and academic attainment go hand in hand and have made it our mission to ensure all young people have the key to unlock the support they need to reach their full potential”.



Yours sincerely,

Mr Darren Andrews

Assistant Principal/Designated Safeguarding Lead

✉ darren.andrews@taw.org.uk ☎ 01952 387300



Ercall Wood Academy

Golf Links Lane, Telford, TF1 2DT

01952 387300

admin@ercallwood.co.uk

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